

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 STR-07 ITC-01 CTME-00 EA-12 AGR-01 /052 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:COM/BIEPR/OCA:RHUMBERT:LCB
APPROVED BY EUR/EE:CWSCHMIDT
COM/BIEPR/OCA:ADAUMAN (DRAFT)
COM/BIEPR/OTP:BMILLER (DRAFT)
COM/BDBD/OBP/IP:BASCHER (DRAFT)
EB/STA:JSPIRO (DRAFT)
EB/ORF/TEX:ABERRY (DRAFT)
EUR/EE:RBRADTKE
COM/BIEPR/OIFI:DGORDON (DRAFT)
COM/BED/OED:IMMCENANEY (DRAFT)

-----039301 110957Z /15

R 102253Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS STATE 203091

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, BTIO, YO

SUBJECT:EMBASSY'S SLOVENIAN ECONOMIC VISITS

REF: BELGRADE 5248

1. TRADE/INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES. EXPORT OPPORTUNITY IN
PARA 2A REFTEL HAS BEEN PROCESSED FOR DISSEMINATION
THROUGH TOPS. JOINT VENTURES LISTED PARAS 2A-B ARE
BEING DISSEMINATED TO INDUSTRY, AND REPORT OF CONTACTS
EFFECTED WILL BE SUBMITTED SEPTTEL. IMPORT OPPORTUNITIES
HAVE BEEN PASSED TO U.S.-YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC COUNCIL
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(USYEC).

2. SPECIALTY STEEL. WE APPRECIATE INTERTRADE'S DESIRE
TO EXPORT SPECIALTY STEEL TO THE U.S. UNFORTUNATELY, IT
IS NOT POSSIBLE TO ALLOCATE A SEPARATE QUOTA FOR
YUGOSLAVIA BECAUSE OF (1) THE COMPLEXITY OF ADMINISTERING
THE PROGRAM AND (2) YUGOSLAVIA IS NOT A MAJOR SUPPLIER

OF THE PRODUCT. WE HAVE HAD TO DENY SIMILAR REQUESTS FROM OTHER SECONDARY PRODUCING COUNTRIES IN THE PAST FOR THESE REASONS. AT THE MOMENT, SINCE THE SEMI-ANNUAL "BASKET" QUOTAS, UNDER WHICH YUGOSLAVIA FALLS, ARE CURRENTLY FILLED, EXCEPT FOR STAINLESS STEEL PLATE, POST MAY INFORM INTERTRADE THAT THEY SHOULD OBTAIN ORDERS AND

READY SHIPMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO THE U.S. AFTER DECEMBER 14 WHEN IMPORTS FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THE RESTRAINT YEAR ARE OPENED ONCE MORE. ALTHOUGH THE QUOTA SYSTEM IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE JUNE 14, 1979, THE IMPORT RELIEF PROGRAM MAY BE EXTENDED BY THE PRESIDENT FOLLOWING AN INVESTIGATION BY THE USITC, REQUESTED BY THE PRESIDENT, THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY OR ON THE ITC'S OWN MOTION.

3. SKI BOOTS. THERE ARE NO REPEAT NO QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO IMPORTS OF NONRUBBER FOOTWEAR, INCLUDING SKI BOOTS, EXCEPT FOR ORDERLY MARKETING AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF KOREA AND TAIWAN. IT SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO SEEK ORDERLY MARKETING AGREEMENTS RESULTED FROM A FINDING OF INJURY TO THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY CAUSED BY INCREASED IMPORTS. UPON SIGNING AGREEMENTS WITH TAIWAN AND KOREA, POSTS IN FOOTWEAR SUPPLYING COUNTRIES WERE REQUESTED TO NOTIFY THEIR HOSTS GOVERNMENTS THAT QUOTE SUDDEN SHIFTS IN TRADE WHICH DISTURPT OUR MARKET AND UNCLASSIFIED

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INTERFERE WITH THE PRESIDENT'S ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE UNQUOTE. CONSEQUENTLY, THE USG HAS RESERVED THE RIGHT TO TAKE FURTHER ACTION IF THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES FROM ANY COUNTRY IN A PARTICULAR CATEGORY OF FOOTWEAR AND/OR TOTAL FOOTWEAR SHIPMENTS TO THE U.S. ACCORDING TO U.S. CENSUS DATA, IMPORTS OF NONRUBBER FOOTWEAR FROM YUGOSLAVIA DURING CY 76 WERE 2,781,000 PAIRS, CY 77 - 2,890,000 PAIRS; JANUARY/JUNE 1978 - 1,608,000 PAIRS. THUS, A PROJECTION OF SIX MONTH SHIPMENTS IN 1978 ANNUAL IMPORTS ARE RUNNING AT A RATE OF 11 PERCENT HIGHER THAN 1977 IMPORTS. U.S. IMPORTS OF YUGOSLAV SKI BOOTS IN 1977 TOTALED 482,000 PAIRS AS COMPARED TO 477,000 IN 1976.

4. APPAREL. IF THE WINTER SPORTSWEAR KOTEEKS-TOBUS PLANS TO EXPORT TO THE U.S. IS CHIEF WEIGHT OR CHIEF, VALUE COTTON, WOOL, OR MAN-MADE FIBER, SUCH SPORTSWEAR WOULD BE COVERED BY THE FEBRUARY 4, 1976 U.S.-YUGOSLAV BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT WHICH PERMITS THE U.S. TO REQUEST CONSULTATIONS IF AND WHEN THOSE PRODUCTS MAY CAUSE OR THREATEN TO CAUSE MARKET DISRUPTION IN THE U.S. UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THAT AGREEMENT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH

ARTICLE 4 OF THE MULTIFIBER ARRANGEMENT (MFA), WE HAVE
RECENTLY NEGOTIATED QUOTAS FOR WOOL AND MAN-MADE FIBER
MEN'S AND BOYS' SUITS. NO OTHER TEXTILE PRODUCTS FROM
YUGOSLAVIA ARE CURRENTLY COVERED BY SUCH RESTRAINT
LEVELS. HOWEVER, SHOULD ANY TEXTILE OR APPAREL IMPORTS
FROM YUGOSLAVIA INCREASE SO AS TO CREATE A MARKET PROBLEM,
THE U.S. COULD SEEK TO NEGOTIATE QUOTAS AS IT DID ON SUITS.
SHOULD AGREEMENT NOT BE REACHED REGARDING APPROPRIATE
RESTRAINT LEVELS, THE U.S. COULD TAKE UNILATERAL ACTION TO
RESTRAIN DISTRUPTIVE IMPORTS UNDER ARTICLE 3 OF THE
MFA. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE203091
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: COM/BIEPR/OCA:RHUMBERT:LCB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780328-0834
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780876/aaaacxt.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b5ba5b65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BELGRADE 5248
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1774975
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EMBASSY'S SLOVENIAN ECONOMIC VISITS
TAGS: ETRD, BTIO, YO
To: BELGRADE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b5ba5b65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014